

**San Gabriel River Citizen Monitoring Plan
CALFED Watershed Program Proposal**

CALFED Bay-Delta Program Project Information Form

Watershed Program - Full Proposal Cover Sheet

Attach to the cover of full proposal. All applicants must fill out this Information Form for their proposal. Failure to answer these questions and include them with the application will result in the application being considered nonresponsive and not considered for funding.

1. Full Proposal Title: San Gabriel River Watershed Citizen Monitoring Program
Concept Proposal Title/Number: San Gabriel River Watershed Citizen Monitoring Program 0147
Applicant: Friends of the San Gabriel River
Applicant Name: Jacqueline Lambrichts
Applicant Mailing Address: P. O. Box 3725, South El Monte, CA 91733
Applicant Telephone: 562-609-6449 Applicant Fax: 562-695-8242 Applicant Email: sangabrielriver@aol.cm
Fiscal Agent Name (if different from above): _____
Fiscal Agent Mailing Address: _____
Fiscal Agent Telephone: _____ Fiscal Agent Fax: _____ Fiscal Agent Email: _____

2. Type of Project: Indicate the primary topic for which you are applying (check only one)

<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring
<input type="checkbox"/> Capacity Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Outreach
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/> Research

3. Type of Applicant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Academic Institution/University	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Private party
<input type="checkbox"/> Joint Venture	<input type="checkbox"/> State Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribe or Tribal Government

4. Location (including County):

What major watershed is the project primarily located in:

☐ Klamath River (Coast and Cascade Ranges)
☐ Sacramento River (Coast, Cascade and Sierra Ranges)
☐ San Joaquin River (Coast and Sierra Ranges)
☐ Bay-Delta (Coast and Sierra Ranges)
☒ Southern CA (Coast and Sierra Ranges)
☐ Tulare Basin (Coast, Sierra and Tehachapi Ranges)

5. Amount of funding requested: \$ 51,120

Cost share/in-kind partners? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Identify partners and amount contributed by each:

Friends of the San Gabriel River	\$14,000
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District	\$10,000

6. Have you received funding from CALFED before? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, identify project title and source of funds:

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By signing below, the applicant declares the following:

1. The truthfulness of all representations in their proposal
2. The individual signing this form is entitled to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if the applicant is an entity or an organization)
3. The person submitting the application has read and understood the conflict of interest and confidentiality discussion in the Watershed Program Proposal Solicitation Package and waives any and all rights to privacy and confidentiality of the proposal on behalf of the applicant, to the extent provided in the Proposal Solicitation Package.

Jacqueline Lambrichts, President of the Board
Printed name of applicant

Signature of applicant

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1. Describe your project, its underlying assumptions, expected outcomes, timetable for completion, and general methodology or process.

The objective for the first phase of the project will be a plan for a citizen monitoring program that is comprehensive in scope, that is adaptable in nature, to allow for modifications based on results of the monitoring, and is scaleable, so that the program can start out small and grow with time.

The proposal includes the development of citizen monitoring for the entire San Gabriel River and its' tributaries, with an emphasis on the urbanized areas of the watershed. The San Gabriel River Watershed is within the solution area of CALFED. The San Gabriel Valley relies heavily on groundwater for domestic water supplies. Much of the groundwater is recharged by capturing storm water and diverting it to spreading basins. This source of water is threatened by the pollution contained in the urban runoff. The solution to urban runoff is to reduce the contamination at its' source. This will require the increased awareness of the problem by the communities in the watershed. A citizen monitoring program will help to educate members of the community to the need to protect and conserve this vital resource. If the San Gabriel watershed community can protect its' groundwater resource from future contamination, it will not be necessary to replace it with imported water in the future. This will provide a benefit to the Bay-Delta, the source of much of the imported water.

Citizen monitoring is widely recognized as an important component of community stewardship of our water resources. There have been a number of citizen monitoring programs that have been started around the state of California and around the country, most of them have struggled to attract and maintain funding and volunteers. The reasons for their difficulties are probably as varied and unique as the organizations conducting the monitoring, but can, to some extent, be attributed to a lack of planning. To address these concerns, and provide for a future sustainable program, the Friends of the San Gabriel River is proposing to develop a comprehensive monitoring plan. In addition to the monitoring plan the Friends of the San Gabriel River will develop a volunteer recruitment and retention strategy that will need to grow and change over time. The second and final phase of the project will be the future implementation of this plan.

The plan will contain at a minimum the following sections:

- Description of the Watershed
- Existing monitoring efforts
- Questions that will be answered by the program
 - What is the existing water quality? Is the existing aquatic community healthy and diverse? What is the state of the existing habitat? As non-point source control measures are installed, how successful are they at reducing pollution? Are there any unidentified sources of pollution, and what are they? As river restoration projects are conducted, how successful are they at restoring habitat and improving the aquatic community?
- Evaluation of existing information
- Identification of data gaps
- Temporal and spatial sample criteria
- Sampling and analysis methodology
- QA/QC procedures
- Data Management
- Field manual
- Training

Stakeholder involvement

To ensure the technical validity of the plan, a Technical Advisory Committee will be convened. Representatives from the following stakeholders will be invited to participate: Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, State Water Resources Control Board, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, Surfrider Foundation, Santa Monica Baykeeper and the Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps. All of the above stakeholders have indicated an interest in the development of a citizen monitoring program for the San Gabriel River.

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Recently, there has been an increased interest in protecting and restoring the San Gabriel River. With the passage of Proposition 13, it is likely that there will be a number of projects to either reduce non-point source pollution or to restore degraded areas of the river. All of these projects will need to conduct monitoring to evaluate their effectiveness. A well planned citizens monitoring program could provide the needed monitoring at a fraction of the costs of paid consultants. With the development of this plan, the Friends of the San Gabriel River will be in a position to support these other efforts.

Expected Outcome

The final document produced in phase I will be used to generate financial and community support and attract volunteers to implement the program.

Timetable for completion

The proposed project is expected to be completed in 6 months after funds are awarded.

Terms and conditions

Friends of the San Gabriel River has reviewed and agrees to abide by the terms and conditions listed in section 8 of the proposal solicitation package.

2. **Describe your qualifications and readiness to implement the proposed project.**
 - a. **Describe the level of institutional structure, ability and experience to administer funds and conduct the project. Identify the fiscal agent responsible for handling the funds.**
 - b. **Describe technical support available (including support needed for environmental compliance and permitting) to begin and complete the project in a timely manner.**
 - c. **List any previous projects of this type you or your partners have implemented, funded either by CALFED or other programs.**

The Friends of the San Gabriel River is a new organization and does not yet have a track record with projects of this type. But, the governing board of the organization includes members with a vast amount of experience. Three of the board members own their own businesses, two of the board members are local elected officials, and two of the members are in state government. The technical background of these board members include three that are scientists and two that are engineers. The board provides a wealth of experience in administering funds and conducting a wide variety of projects. Friends of the San Gabriel River is a 501(c)(3) and will be the fiscal agent responsible for handling the funds.

There is a team that is being proposed to develop and review the project. The project will be developed by Dr. John Foster, Dr. Richard Laton and Dr. Monique Born. Jacqueline Lambrichts will provide direct oversight of their work, with input from the Board of Friends of the San Gabriel River. Additionally a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be formed with, at a minimum, representatives from the following agencies invited to participate: Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, State Water Resources Control Board, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, Surfrider Foundation, Santa Monica Baykeeper and the Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps. The TAC will be asked to review and comment on the scope of work and on draft products.

In 1991, the Watershed Restoration Program was formed between our partner, the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District and the U.S. Forest Service. The program was developed as a means of restoring and preserving the watershed in the San Gabriel Mountains, which directly impacts the local groundwater supply. Volunteers collect acorns, native seeds and plant tree saplings in the local mountain area. The program has funded a watershed nursery and the installation of 3 interpretative signs that explain the function and importance of the local watershed along highway 39 in the San Gabriel Mountains.

3. **Provide a completed budget cost sheet and describe the basis for determining project costs, including comparisons with other similar projects, salary comparisons, and other listed costs. Include all costs of environmental compliance, such as CEQA and/or NEPA, and permits. Describe how the approach to achieving the stated goals of the project demonstrates an effective cost relative to its anticipated benefits.**

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There are 3 sources for the project resources: (1) Friends of the San Gabriel River will provide as in-kind services the staff and board members time. (2) The Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper District) has agreed to contribute \$10,000 to the project. The Upper District's Public Information Committee approved the concept of funding a citizen monitoring program plan at its' December 2000 meeting. The board of the Upper District approved the funding at its' January 2001 meeting. (3) This CALFED watershed grant is for \$51,120.

The cost estimates used for the proposal were developed in a meeting between Jacqueline Lambrichts, Friends of the San Gabriel River, Eric Burres, Citizen Monitoring Coordinator for the State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Team, and Dr. John Foster and Dr. Richard Laton from the Geology and Hydrogeology department at the California State University at Fullerton.

An overhead cost rate of 20% was applied to both of the external sources of funds: \$2,000 from the Upper District and \$9,520 from CALFED. The full amount of the overhead is listed in the attached "CALFED Watershed Program Budget Summary I" under Administration (Task 1) in the supplies category. The overhead rate is intended to contribute to the general costs to maintain the organization, these costs include rent, telephone, e-mail, utilities (gas, electricity, water, sewage), supplies (paper, envelopes, toner, tape, flip charts, etc...), and postage.

The in-kind services match were calculated as 40 hours a month for 7 months or 280 hours, at \$50/hour for a total of \$14,000. The rate of \$50/hour is the amount charged by Jacqueline Lambrichts for similar work.

The proposal includes two subcontractors: California State University at Fullerton and the Sustainable Land Stewardship Institute.

California State University at Fullerton

Dr. John Foster and Dr. Richard Laton have extensive experience with the San Gabriel River. They have recently completed a survey of the main stem of the San Gabriel River documenting significant features including all discharge outlet points into the river, below the Whittier Narrows dam, for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. This work was included in the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board's State of the San Gabriel River Watershed Report. Additionally, the results from this project were incorporated in the annual update of the State Water Resources Control Board's Watershed Initiative Plan, for the year 2000. In 1991 and 1992 Dr. John Foster and his team compiled and evaluated all of the existing water quality data for the San Gabriel River. This evaluation was conducted as a component of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board's update of its' Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan).

Sustainable Land Stewardship Institute

Dr. Monique Born, a biologist, is our subcontractor from the Sustainable Land Stewardship Institute. The Sustainable Land Stewardship Institute was founded by Jim Harrington from California Department of Fish and Game, to promote the use of bioassessment. Jim is the undisputed expert on bioassessment in California. He has developed the protocols that are the standards in the state of California. The proposal includes \$1,500 in travel and per diem for Monique Born to travel from northern California.

Attached is a program and budget summary table which list the tasks and budget to complete the project. Also attached is a budget summary and a subcontractors budget summary. These 2 tables summarize the source of funding and categorize the expenditures.

It should be noted that the final budget for the project is \$21,120 higher than the budget in the initial proposal. This is due to an under estimation on the cost to develop the bioassessment portion of the proposal. To keep within the initial proposal budget estimate the bioassessment portion of the plan would need to be removed.

4. Describe the technical feasibility of the proposed project.

- a. Describe any similarity to previously implemented successful projects in this community or elsewhere.
- b. If the project proposes a new approach or new method with a high likelihood of adding new knowledge and or techniques, or with the potential to fill identified gaps in existing knowledge, describe how it will do so, and what monitoring components will provide substantiation of results.

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- c. Explain how the finished project will be maintained as necessary, and to what degree it may require continued funding from outside the community.**

There are a number of ongoing citizen monitoring programs for other waterbodies in the area, these include the Santa Monica Baykeeper stormdrain monitoring program for the Santa Monica Bay, Surfrider Foundation's coastal bacteria monitoring program, and the Santa Barbara Coastkeeper Ventura River monitoring program. The most comprehensive and arguably the most successful program in the area is Heal the Bay's Malibu Creek Stream Team. Heal the Bay in cooperation with California Polytechnic Institute at Pomona developed a citizen monitoring plan and field guide. The monitoring plan described the watershed and evaluated existing monitoring efforts and laid out a strategy for implementing a comprehensive citizen monitoring program. This proposal is modeled after the Stream Team's approach.

This proposal does not propose any new methods or approaches but learns from and builds on the experience of other citizen monitoring programs in the area.

The final products from this proposal will be planning documents and as such will not require on-going maintenance.

5. Describe how the monitoring component of the project will help determine the effectiveness of project implementation and assist the project proponent and CALFED with adaptive management processes.
- a. Identify performance measures appropriate for the stated goals and objectives of the project.
 - b. Describe how this project will coordinate with and support other local and regional monitoring efforts.
 - c. Provide a description of any citizen monitoring programs that will be part of this project.
 - d. What monitoring protocols will be used, and are they widely accepted as standard protocols?
 - e. Describe how the type and manner of data collection and analysis will be useful for informing local decision making?

This proposal is for the development of a plan for citizen monitoring program on the San Gabriel River. This phase of the project will not include any monitoring.

6. If this project is to develop specific watershed conservation, maintenance or restoration actions, describe the scientific basis for the action(s) described in the proposal. Include the following:
- a. Any assessment of watershed condition(s) that has already been developed by you or others.
 - b. Previous assessment(s) used to establish your project goals and objectives, or to inform the basic assumptions of your proposal.
 - c. A description of the scientific assumptions used to develop the project goals, objectives and proposed actions, and the degree to which those assumptions are widely accepted (both in the science community as a whole, and in the watershed community).
 - d. A discussion of how the proposed actions are (are not) consistent with the scientific assumptions and previous assessments completed in the watershed.
 - e. A description of what baseline knowledge was used to support the management actions described in the proposal, or the likelihood that the management actions will generate more robust baseline knowledge.

This proposal is for the development of a plan for citizen monitoring program on the San Gabriel River. The proposal does not include any watershed conservation, maintenance or restoration actions.

7. A. How will the proposal address multiple CALFED objectives (see Section I) in an integrated fashion, with emphasis on water supply reliability, water quality, ecosystem quality, and levee stability objectives CALFED has established for Stage 1 of the program?

B. Explain how the proposal will help define and illustrate relationships between watershed processes (including human elements), watershed management, and the primary goals and objectives of the CALFED (see Section I).

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C. Identify a lead agency for environmental compliance, such as CEQA or NEPA. Describe the program's strategy and timetable on environmental compliance.

Education on the CALFED objectives with focus on water supply reliability and water quality will be a strong message in any education and outreach effort of this citizen monitoring program plan. The need for stewardship and involvement by the local community in the monitoring, protection and ecosystem enhancement of the local water resources will have added weight with the knowledge of the impact of current water importation to the water quality of the Bay-Delta. The need to reduce the local reliance on imported water and to protect the local resource and enhance its ecosystem will provide further impetus for participation in the implementation (Phase II) of this citizen monitoring program. Not only will the community members learn about their watershed and its' complex system, they will also be made aware of its interdependence on another multi-watershed system, and the need for its own protection and improvement in water quality. The CALFED objectives local to the area will lead to an increase in water conservation and a greater level of cleanup of storm water pollution, which is the source of much of the local groundwater recharge. This will protect the groundwater and reduce the ongoing as well as increased need for imported water from the Bay-Delta.

A citizen monitoring program by its very nature promotes community involvement in watershed management. The goal of this project is to plan a monitoring program that will raise the awareness of the local communities to the benefits of the river. The implementation phase (Phase II) of the program will include evaluation of the water quality impacts of different land uses, effectiveness of non-point source best management practices and educating landowners. Without a comprehensive monitoring program it will be impossible to evaluate the success of different watershed management measures. The citizen monitoring program provides a focal point for community members interest in the river and a forum to become involved in the management of the watershed.

The completed phase I plan will provide the instrument to educate about the project and encourage participation in the implementation of the program. Once the phase I is completed, Friends of the San Gabriel River will conduct workshops, meet with local elected officials, and members of the business community to explain the program, garner support and recruit volunteers. The program is focused on local community involvement which will promote the development and implementation of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program in two ways; first by building local community capacity to assess and manage watershed efforts, second by increasing the awareness on water quality and quantity in the local communities and the water quality impacts to the Bay-Delta.

8. Describe any other important aspects of your program that you could not address in the above items, and that you feel are critical to fully describing your project.

San Gabriel River Citizen Monitoring Plan

CALFED Watershed Program Budget Summary I

Task Description	Labor	Supplies	Materials	Subcontract*	Match	CALFED	Total
Task 1: Administration	\$14,000	\$11,520			\$16,000	\$9,520	\$25,520
Task 2: Description of Watershed				\$16,050	\$2,000	\$14,050	\$16,050
Task 3: Develop criteria for supplemental sampling locations				\$16,550	\$1,000	\$15,550	\$16,550
Task 4: Develop sampling and analysis methodologies				\$2,500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,500
Task 5: Develop data management procedures				\$2,500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,500
Task 6: Develop training manuals				\$5,000	\$1,000	\$4,000	\$5,000
Task 7: Reporting and presentations				\$7,000	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$7,000
Totals:	\$14,000	\$11,520		\$49,600	\$24,000	\$51,120	\$75,120

*Provide a separate itemized budget using this format for subcontracts

**San Gabriel River Citizen Monitoring Plan
Subcontractors Budget Summary
California State University at Fullerton
Sustainable Land Stewardship Institute - Bioassessment Subcontractor**

CALFED Watershed Program Budget Summary I

Task Description	Labor	Supplies	Materials	Travel	Match	CALFED	Total
Task 1: Administration							
Task 2: Description of Watershed	13300	1250	750	750		16050	16050
Task 3: Develop criteria for supplemental sampling locations	15800			750		16550	16550
Task 4: Develop sampling and analysis methodologies	2500					2500	2500
Task 5: Develop data management procedure	1500	500	500			2500	2500
Task 6: Develop training manuals	4700		300			5000	5000
Task 7: Reporting and presentations	4000	1000	2000			7000	7000
Totals:	41800	2750	3550	1500		49600	49600

*Provide a separate itemized budget using this format for subcontracts